

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 06993 171729Z

65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OFA-01 DLOS-04 TRSE-00 EB-07 CG-00 DOTE-00 /079 W

----- 020849

R 171642Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5257

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 6993

E. O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, BL, PE, CI

SUBJECT: BOLIVIA/CHILE NEGOTIATIONS ON OUTLET TO THE SEA

REF: A) SANTIAGO 6525 B) 6785

1. DESPITE REFERENCES TO OUTLET TO SEA DURING MAJOR SPEECHES AT UNGA, AND DURING BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT BANZER'S VISIT TO LIMA, CHILEAN FONMINISTRY CONTINUES TO TAKE POSITION THAT FORMAL NEGOTIATION BETWEEN COUNTRIES HAS NOT YET BEGUN.

2. FONMINISTRY POLITICAL ADVISER ENRIQUE BERNSTEIN TOLD EMBOFF OCT 16 THAT DRAFT LANGUAGE ON BOLIVIA IN FONMIN CARVAJAL'S OCT 7 SPEECH TO UNGA HAD BEEN SHOWN TO BOLIVIANS, AND THAT BOLIVIAN FONMIN HAD BEEN PLEASED WITH WORDING. HE SAID PRESIDENT BANZER'S SPEECH HAD BEEN MODERATE ON THE WHOLE. BERNSTEIN WAS SENSITIVE, HOWEVER, TO BANZER'S STATEMENT THAT "NEGOTIATIONS" BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WERE IN COURSE (TEXT OF BANZER SPEECH AS REPORTED IN SANTIAGO PRESS DOES NOT QUOTE "NEGOTIATIONS" BUT RATHER SPEAKS OF "CONVERSATIONS" IN PARAPHRASE). HE SAID THAT IN FACT BOLIVIA HAS PROPOSED A PAPER TO BE USED AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS (REF A) BUT THAT THE NEGOTIATION HAS NOT ACTUALLY BEGUN.

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3. BERNSTEIN WENT ON TO SAY THAT CARVAJAL HAD BEEN CAREFUL NOT

TO RECOGNIZE BOLIVIA'S RIGHT TO A SOVEREIGN OUTLET TO THE SEA,
ALTHOUGH THE BOLIVIAN PRESS HAD INTERPRETED HIS STATEMENT AS
DOING SO. CARVAJAL'S KEY PHRASE WAS GOC'S WILLINGNESS "TO ANALYZE"
BOLIVIA'S DESIRE FOR A "SOVEREIGN EXIT TO THE SEA," A PHRASE
THAT DOES NOT COMMIT CHILE TO TRANSFER SOVEREIGNTY.

4. COMMENT: BARRING THE UNLIKELY CASE THAT BERNSTEIN IS UNINFORMED
OR NOT FORTHCOMING, THE CHILEANS HAVE NOT YET REPLIED TO WHAT
AMOUNTS TO A BOLIVIAN REQUEST FOR A SOVEREIGN CORRIDOR (REF B).
WE HAVE HEARD THAT THE CHILEAN NAVY IS HOLDING OUT AGAINST A
CHANGE IN SOVEREIGNTY, AND WE WERE TOLD THAT DEFENSE MINISTER
BRADY AND FONMIN CARVAJAL WILL MEET OCT 21 TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT.
POPPER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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